

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-29 are pending in this application. The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.1.83(a). Claims 10, 18, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Applicants' admitted art further in view of U.S. patent 3,777,367 to Kalagidis. Claims 11, 19, and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Applicants' admitted art and Kalagidis as applied to claim 10, and further in view of U.S. patent 4,514,670 to Fassel et al. (herein "Fassel"). Claims 1, 12, 20 and 26 were noted as allowable over the prior art.

Initially, applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of the allowable subject matter.

Applicants and applicants' representative wish to thank Examiners Elkassabgi and Mullins for the personal interview granted to applicants' representative on April 19, 2005. During the interview the outstanding rejections were discussed in detail. Further, during the interview applicants' representative presented comments as to how the figures were believed to fully support the claimed features, and amendments to the specification and Figure 1 were discussed to address the objection to the Figures. Claim amendments were also discussed to clarify independent claims 10, 18, and 28. The present response sets forth the discussed claim, specification, and Figure 1 amendments. During the interview the Examiners indicated the figures appear to support the claimed features in view of the discussed amendments to the specification and Figure 1. The Examiners also indicated the discussed amended claims 10, 18, and 28 appear to address the outstanding rejections.

Addressing first the objection to the drawings, applicants submit that objection is traversed by the present response.

The drawings were objected to as the features of the first and second flat surfaces of the electrical parts mounting base board were noted as not shown in the drawings. In response to that objection, a substitute Figure 1 is submitted labeling the electrical parts mounting base board 23 having both the first and second flat surfaces (now labeled 26A, 26B). Further, such features shown in the drawings are also believed to be clear from the original specification from the disclosure for example at page 8, lines 4-5, and page 10, lines 5-6, lines 9-10, and lines 17-20.

Addressing now the rejection of claims 10, 18, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Applicants' admitted art and further in view of Kalagidis, and the further rejection of claims 11, 19, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Applicants' admitted art and Kalagidis as applied to claim 10, and further in view of Fassel, those rejections are traversed by the present response.

Each of independent claims 10, 18 and 28 is amended by the present response to clarify the language recited therein. Specifically, independent claim 10 now clarifies the limitation of:

a pair of electrode brushes, each pair of electrode brushes including first and second separate portions that are in sliding contact with the contact electrode of the commutator at respective sliding contact positions of a different distance from an axis of the rotation shaft, and configured to supply electrical power to the rotor coils through the commutator[.]

According to such a structure in the claims, and with reference to Fig. 8 in the present application as a non-limiting example, each of the separate portions 16Aa and 16Ab of the first electrode brush 16A is in sliding contact with the contact electrode parts 23a of the commutator at different predetermined distances from the axis of the rotation shaft 21, i.e. at

different predetermined radial positions.¹ Such features are believed to clearly distinguish over the applied art to the admitted art, Kalagidis, and Fassel.

In the admitted art the paired electrode brushes B01 and B02 of Fig. 17 are brought into contact with the commutator CM0 on rotation angle positions different by 180 °. The features as clarified in the claims are believed to clearly distinguish over such a structure.

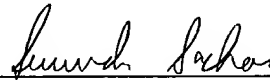
Moreover, no structure in Kalagidis or Fassel is believed to overcome the above-noted deficiencies in the admitted art.

In such ways, each of amended independent claims 10, 18, and 28, and the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to also distinguish over the applied art.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ See also the present specification at page 13, line 1 et seq.

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet